

The American Committee For Relief In The Near East

ITS HISTORY, ITS
WORK AND THE
NEED FOR SUPPORT
AS OUTLINED BY
PRESIDENT WILSON
AND OTHERS

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For Relief In The Near East**

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A P R O C L A M A T I O N

For more than three years American philanthropy has been a large factor in keeping alive Armenian, Syrian, Greek and other exiles and refugees of Western Asia.

On two former occasions I have appealed to the American people in behalf of these homeless sufferers, whom the vicissitudes of war and massacre had brought to the extremest need.

The response has been most generous, but now the period of rehabilitation is at hand. Vastly larger sums will be required to restore these once prosperous, but now impoverished, refugees to their former homes than were required merely to sustain life in their desert exile.

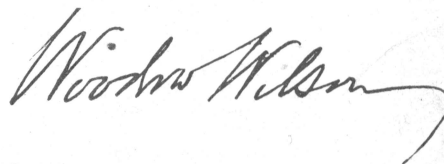
It is estimated that about 4,000,000 Armenian, Syrian, Greek and other war sufferers in the Near East will require outside help to sustain them through the winter. Many of them are now hundreds of miles from their homeland. The vast majority of them are helpless women and children, including 400,000 orphans.

The American Committee for Relief in the Near East is appealing for a minimum of \$30,000,000 to be subscribed January 12-19, 1919, with which to meet the most urgent needs of these people.

I, therefore, again call upon the people of the United States to make even more generous contributions than they have made heretofore to sustain through the winter months those, who, through no fault of their own, have been left in a starving, shelterless condition, and to help reestablish these ancient and sorely oppressed people in their former homes on a self-supporting basis.

THE WHITE HOUSE

29 November, 1918



Reprinted from

"The Work of the American Red Cross"

Financial Statement of Red Cross War Fund, March 1st, 1918

RELIEF WORK

Item 72—Armenian and Syrian Relief, \$2,200,000.00

IN recommending contributions of \$2,200,000 to the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief, the Red Cross Committee on Co-operation based its action on three facts:

"(1) The efficient and economical organization, both in America and Western Asia, of the American Committee.

"(2) The geographical extent of the need, unparalleled condition of destitution and suffering, and large number of people whose deaths could be prevented by direct and continued assistance.

"(3) The fact that the American Committee is the only organization outside of the Red Crescent (controlled by the Turkish Government) in a position to administer this relief.

I. EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION

"The American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief was organized in October, 1915, for the purpose of securing immediate relief for Armenians and Syrians, cabled reports of whose persecutions were at that time just beginning to reach this country. Since October 1, 1915, it has received from all sources and distributed for relief approximately \$9,000,000.

"The entire administrative expenses of this Committee are met privately, enabling it to devote to distinctly relief work 100 cents of every dollar received for this purpose. The work of distribution in Asia is handled by 100 or more responsible American citizens, consuls, physicians, educators and others who give their services to relief administration without salary or expense to the relief funds. The Committee's audited reports show that some \$25,000 more has been spent for relief than has been received in contributions, the difference being accounted for by the interest on daily balances. * * * * *

"As an instance of the business-like methods employed, it was reported late in the fall of 1917 that food prices were rapidly advancing in Turkey, Armenia, Syria and the Caucasus, and that by the time winter came food would, in all probability, be cornered to such an extent that prices would be much higher than at the time of writing. Accordingly, the

Red Cross, at the request of the American Committee, appropriated in October, \$600,000 for the months of November and December, 1917, to make possible the purchase of food at the lower rate. The actual record of prices as later reported during the winter months shows that at least \$500,000 was saved by this advance purchase.

II. THE NEED FOR RELIEF

"The field of operations includes not only Asia Minor with those portions of Armenia and Syria that are in the Ottoman Empire, but also the large section of Armenia until recently dominated by the Russian Army, as well as the Russian Caucasus, Persia, Mesopotamia, Palestine, and portions of Egypt and Macedonia, into which regions Armenians, Syrians and Greeks have fled in large numbers. Of the Armenians, about 1,000,000 were massacred or driven to their death during the summer of 1915, and the remainder within Turkish dominions were deported from their homes into the deserts or other regions where self-support was practically impossible.

"For months innumerable cables relating details of the most terrible suffering and deplorable conditions of the inhabitants of Asia Minor have been received by the Committee. On January 15, 1918, American Consul Smith, at Tiflis, in the Russian Caucasus cabled that the condition of the refugees there was critical; that the responsibilities were almost entirely on the American Committee; that it was besieged by appeals from all districts, delegations of hungry people often numbering 100 coming long distances begging for bread, and refusing to leave without food or promises.

III. UNIQUE POSITION OF AMERICAN COMMITTEE

"With the exception of the work being done by the Jewish Relief Committee, the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief is the only agency organized for affording relief in this great area of the Near East. In Persia and Russia some small British funds are spent by the field commissioners of the American Committee. The American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief is the only organization outside of the Red Crescent (controlled by the Turkish Government) in a position to administer relief to the starving Armenians and Syrians, and certain portions of the Greek population in the Turkish Empire."

Former Ambassador Morgenthau's Testimony

IT has been to me a source of great satisfaction to know that the relief work carried on under the direction and with the support of the American Committee for Relief in the Near East (American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief) has continued without abatement since my withdrawal from Turkey. From all that I have learned through conference with American representatives who have recently come from Turkey, I am convinced that the work now, is still going on with increasing force and effectiveness.

It is gratifying to learn through those who have recently come from the country that the Turkish officials have promised to co-operate in the matter of caring for the terrible destitution which so widely prevails in the country. They could do no less since the destitute Protestant, Catholic, Jew and Mohammedan—alike, is fed and clothed. *Need, not creed, rightly defines your field of service.*

Let us hope and pray they have seen the error of their ways. The needs of these poor, famishing, shelterless and scantily-clad people, deprived of nearly all of their breadwinners, is perhaps the most heart-rending of any in the world.

HENRY M. MORGENTHAU.

December 5th, 1918.

Late Ambassador to Turkey.

From the Consul Recently Returned from Aleppo

THE only thing the matter with your statement is that it is not strong enough. The urgency of the demands are far beyond estimation. The 120,000 or so dependent persons in Aleppo and vicinity have no other resource for bread, and once the relief stops these people will disappear from the face of the earth. Disease is rife even among the permanent inhabitants, irrespective of race or religion, and the deported Christians will be in an absolutely hopeless condition without the funds that have been and must continue to be sent to them.

The local relief distributing committee in Aleppo is very trustworthy and all funds forwarded there go to reliable men who are intensely interested in the work in every particular. The fact that we are able to save so large a number of the deportees is ample evidence of the effectiveness of the relief work.

I heartily endorse the statement of Mr. Tarler, which should be accepted in detail.

Signed,

J. B. Jackson.

From The Consul At Marsine

IBEG to state that I heartily endorse the statements of the Secretaries of the Embassy regarding the distribution of the relief for Armenians and Syrians by Americans in Turkey and will emphasize my own convictions as to their integrity and conscientiousness in the performance of the onerous duties in this connection. I also reiterate my state-

ments made before your Committee when in New York recently, that there is a population of at least fifty thousand sufferers in the district of Adana and Konio who are in great need of help.

Signed,

Edward I. Nathan.

Testimony from United States Consular Agents

BELIEVE there is no place in the world where there is greater and more urgent need of relief at the present time than among the surviving Christian population in the Turkish Empire.

I speak from a personal knowledge of the situation, as during the past three years I have been located at Harpoot, and there was brought into close contact with the distress and misery of thousands of homeless and destitute women and children who are absolutely dependent upon charity for their subsistence.

For the past two years systematic relief has been regularly given by the American missionaries and myself to more than 5,000 Armenians in the vicinity of Harpoot alone. Notwithstanding our efforts, it was impossible to reach all and many hundreds were constantly being turned away owing to insufficient funds, while in scarcely any instance was the relief given adequate for their needs. All that anyone ever received was one small piece of bread a day and in many cases this had to be shared with others. It is to be borne in mind that very few of these people have any way of earning, as owing to the existing conditions there is no work to be obtained.

The majority of these unfortunate women and children are now in such a wretched and helpless condition that they cannot long survive if help is not received. In fact, many did die last winter for lack of food. Present conditions are more critical than ever.

Arrangements have been made by which funds can continue to be sent there without any risk of loss and, if it can be done in this difficult interior district, there can be little doubt about reaching all other parts of Turkey where relief is being distributed.

Signed,

Leslie A. Davis.

AS first Secretary of the American Embassy at Constantinople from before the beginning of the present war and until nearly a month after Turkey broke diplomatic relations with the United States, I have had constant and close relations with the distributors of relief among the Armenian, Syrian and Greek refugees in that country. As Ambassador Elkus was the chairman of the Distributing Committee, I was brought officially into close contact with all that work.

There is no question as to the extreme need. The distress among the stricken people is beyond any power of words to describe. The present monthly appropriations of the Committee meet this need to a limited degree. Up to the time the Embassy left Constantinople the Turkish officials were generally friendly to the American members of the Relief Committee. Certain reports from the interior show that they were not only friendly, but helpful in aiding the relief agents in securing supplies and in coming into contact with the distress.

The American missionaries who have had main charge of relief measures, work without pay, and owing to their wide experience, knowledge of the people of the country and their language, use the limited funds at their disposal in the most economical manner. Through soup kitchens, industrial relief and personal supervision the greatest efficiency is secured with the most economical use of funds at their disposal.

The American public can, however, have absolute confidence that every dollar given is wisely and effectively used for the saving of life. The number of children who are in daily need runs into the tens of thousands. No appeal comes with greater force or where the necessity is more urgent than for the refugees in Turkey.

Signed,

C. Cornell Tarlar.

Translation from the French of a telegram received by the Armenian Benevolent Union. Referred by Mr. Kurkjian and Mr. Karagheusian to our Committee.

Cairo, Egypt, October 30, 1918.

Thousands of sufferers delivered in Syria are reduced to horrible misery. Our resources are insufficient. Try to obtain contributions from the (Armenian) National Union for our relief. Co-operation with the Armenian and Syrian Relief Society is indispensable in order to organize together the work of assistance. We have great need of competent sisters and women devoted to direct our schools and orphanage work. Launch an appeal.

(Signed)

ARTIN PASHA.



THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

November 27, 1918

My dear Mr. Buck:

I understand that the Jefferson County War Chest has under consideration an appropriation to the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief. I am very glad to give my hearty endorsement to the work which the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief has been, and is doing in Western Asia. It has probably been the largest single factor in keeping alive many thousands of deported women and children of the subject races of Turkey, and its present program of relief and rehabilitation is worthy of the fullest possible support.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert Lansing", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Robert J. Buck, Esquire,
Chairman Jefferson County War Chest,
Watertown, New York.

CHAIRMAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND DIRECTOR GENERAL, JOHN R. MOTT

TREASURER, CLEVELAND H. DODGE

UNITED WAR WORK CAMPAIGN

(INCORPORATED)

ORGANIZED AT REQUEST OF PRESIDENT WILSON

\$170,500,000 NOVEMBER 11-18, 1918

UNITED COMMITTEE

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JOHN R. MOTT
MRS. HENRY P. DAVISON
JOHN G. AGAR
JAMES J. PHELAN
MORTIMER L. SCHIFF

MYRON T. HERRICK
FRANK A. VANDERLIP
GEORGE GORDON BATTLE
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR.
CLEVELAND H. DODGE
RAYMOND B. FOSDICK
EX-OFFICIO CHAIRMAN

COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL OF THE Y. M. C. A.
WAR WORK COUNCIL OF THE Y. W. C. A.
NATIONAL CATHOLIC WAR COUNCIL (K. OF C.)
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
WAR CAMP COMMUNITY SERVICE
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SALVATION ARMY

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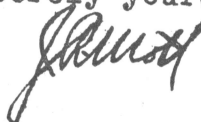
EQUITABLE TRUST BUILDING, 347 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

December 2, 1918.

My dear Mr. Millar:

The relief work carried on by the American Committee in the Near East on behalf of Armenians, Syrians, Jews, Greeks and Persians in Western Asia, affords a pressing and an appealing opportunity for the American people to support a humanitarian cause. I most heartily endorse your Thirty Million Dollar Campaign culminating in a drive January 12th to 19th, and I bespeak for you the hearty cooperation and support of all the workers who took part in the United War Work Campaign and those associated with the Young Men's Christian Association throughout the country.

Very sincerely yours,



W. B. Millar, Esq.,
Director General,
1 Madison Avenue,
New York City.

Attitude of National and State Councils of Defense

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

MR. ELLIOTT D. SMITH, of the Field Division of the Council of National Defense, has in his possession the necessary material upon which State Councils of Defense may base their endorsements. He will be glad to have referred to him any difficulties our Committees might experience in obtaining the endorsement of a State Council of Defense.

The National Council of Defense through this Executive Committee has refused to endorse any relief organization which is not directly connected with one or more bureaus of the Government. Officials of the National Council of Defense however have personally expressed their sympathy and their desire to cooperate with our Campaign.

STATE COUNCILS OF DEFENSE

Endorsements are being daily received from State Councils of Defense. Thirty-two of the forty-eight State Councils of Defense have at this writing endorsed the work of the Committee for Relief in the Near East. The action of a few is given below:

CONNECTICUT—"We already have the name of your organization, of course, among those which has been approved in this State, and we congratulate you upon

the very remarkable work that you are doing, and the business-like way in which it is handled."

MINNESOTA—"When you are ready to make your campaign in Minnesota I assure you this department will be very glad to assist you in any way."

NEBRASKA—"In view of the information pertaining to the conduct of your campaign for Armenian and Syrian Relief, the Nebraska State Council of Defense extends you its endorsement."

NEW JERSEY—"This will inform you that at a meeting of our Executive Committee on the 23rd instant the endorsement which you desire for the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief in the matter of soliciting funds in the State of New Jersey was gladly extended.

OREGON — Governor Withycombe is Honorary Chairman of our Committee. Some County Councils conduct our campaign.

WASHINGTON—State Council has endorsed movement, accepted State quota and assigned definite quota to every county.

WYOMING—"I most heartily approve of the purposes of your Society, and trust that, when the people of Wyoming, as well as other States are given an opportunity to contribute, they will do so generously and without stint.

Not Sharing But Giving Their All

AT the foot of Mt. Ararat cluster the Armenians, truly "the people of the Ararat." Nestling under its shoulder is Etchmiadzin, where Gregory the Illuminator received the vision that resulted in the conversion of the Armenian nation, far back in the year 303. On that spot is built the venerable church about which all the history of this ever-persecuted nation centers. There to this day is the seat of the Catholikos, or head of the Armenian Church, whom I had visited the day before I went to Kanakar.

Kanakar was a "sample" village, where about fifty orphans were receiving relief from the American Committee. The place itself contains about three hundred mud houses, of the conventional one-story type. It is entirely agricultural, having no manufactures. Into two hundred and ten of these houses refugees who have made the long journey from devastated Armenia have been taken, to the total number of about one thousand persons, mostly women and children, of course.

If it had not been for the charity of the poor villagers to whom the smitten refugees have turned, the tale of Armenian dead would be nearly double its present total of a million. These people who in their

poverty have shared their 'all are the really great givers toward this cause. No momentary impulse of generosity has led them to contribute what money they could spare; they have given of their homes, their fires, their food, their clothes, and have done so continuously. No honor roll of these givers is kept this side of the pearly gates.

The plan of orphan relief is simple. It is the rule of the Armenian Committee in Erivan to give no money to men or women, except the latter be seriously ill; work it does provide for a few adults by its wonderful industrial establishment. For one child out of a family of orphans, it provides a stipend of six roubles monthly, increased at the time of our visit to ten roubles, owing to the depreciation of the rouble, which is now worth less than ten cents.

Each case is investigated by men trained in the mission schools of the American Board, some having been ministers or professors back in Armenia. This relief work, I found, will stand the acid test of the Associated Charities or of the Rockefeller Foundation; for there is system in it all, down to the minutest detail. Nobody need fear that Armenian relief funds are either wasted or given to the undeserving.

WM. T. ELLIS, Swarthmore, Pa.

America's Response to these Terrible Needs

Organization of the American Committee

ON October 1, 1915, in New York City, there was organized a committee for the relief of the Armenians suffering in the Turkish Empire. For the relief of other sufferers in Western Asia, two American committees had already been operating for some months, namely, the Syria-Palestine Relief Committee and the Persian War Relief Fund. These two committees united with the Armenian Committee in November, 1915, forming an enlarged organization under the name of The American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief.

In order that this tremendously vital work of relief and reconstruction may be properly co-ordinated a bill of incorporation is now before Congress, which when passed will officially designate the present organizations as "The American Committee for Relief in the near East."

The American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief sustains the closest co-operative relations with the American Red Cross. Previous to the organization of the Red Cross Work Council, the committee had an exceptionally effective, as well as economical organization distributing relief in Western Asia. One hundred or more well qualified American citizens were engaged in the work without expense to relief funds for salary or administration. A budget of \$2,000,000 had already been administered before the War Council was organized.

The committee was ready to co-operate with the new Red Cross organization last June in any way that would secure the best results, but on recommendation of the Red Cross Committee on Co-ordination, of which Judge Lovett was then Chairman, the Armenian and Syrian Relief Committee was advised to continue its existing organization; because its field of activity was distinctive; because of the existence in Turkey of the Red Crescent Society and because relief was already being effectively administered.

As an expression of confidence in the committee, the Red Cross War Council upon recommendation of the Committee on Co-ordination, is making an appropriation of \$300,000 monthly as a grant in aid for Armenian and Syrian Relief. In doing this, however, they recognize that "substantial and important as this appropriation is, it is *wholly inadequate* to meet the full need, and that to provide for the entire number of people dependent upon you for aid would practically exhaust the entire fund of the American

Red Cross, which, of course, is contributed largely for the relief and comfort of our own soldiers and sailors and those of our allies. We understand that your committee will continue to press its appeal for supplementary funds with which to meet more nearly the task that is before you."

The close relationship between the two organizations is further suggested by the fact that Mr. Cleveland H. Dodge, who is the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the American Red Cross War Council, is treasurer of the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief. Moreover, the War Council has asked Mr. Dodge, the chairman of their Finance Committee and a member of their Executive Committee, to serve as their representative on the Executive Committee of the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief. The two organizations are thoroughly one in their purpose and ideals, different only in the territory served and the form of its organization.

DESTITUTE ALL ACCESSIBLE NOW

With the capitulation of Turkey and the signing of the Armistice by the other warring European Nations, all the destitute and suffering peoples in the near East now become accessible.

All remittances are sent through the Department of State.

No Government Aid is Available. While we rejoice that millions of dollars each month are loaned or otherwise appropriated by our government for the relief of the unfortunate women and children of Belgium, Northern France and Serbia, no such aid is available or possible for the Armenians, Syrians, Greeks and other subject races of Asia, for the reason that the Armenians, Syrians and Greeks of Western Asia are not independent nations to whom our government can make a loan. They are oppressed Christians, subject races that can be reached only by private philanthropy.

Attitude of Our Own Government. A prominent official of the State Department recently stated that "The Armenian and Syrian Relief work is one of the *best possible combinations of patriotism and philanthropy.*" America stands as the friend of smaller nations of which Persia is one and as the friend of oppressed subject races which include the Greeks, Armenians and Syrians.

Extracts from Constantinople Committee's Report Dated June 30th, 1918

The following paragraphs are taken from the nine page report of the Committee's representatives in Constantinople. This report is signed by L. R. Fowle, C. T. Gates, C. A. Dana, Elizabeth Dodge Huntington.

“THE Ottoman Government recognized the purely humanitarian character of this work, and has not opposed any obstacle to its continuance.

“This constitutes a marked instance of the Christian principle of disinterested benevolence manifested in time of war, and in spite of war conditions.

“In some places the local governors have recognized the great usefulness of the work, and have helped our agents to secure food at the reduced prices.

“The relief administered has been given in different ways, according to the conditions of the sufferers.

“First, there are the homeless, a stream of women and children wandering through the streets. If you stop a child towards evening, and ask him where he is going he will tell you ‘I am searching for a place to sleep.’ All winter long they have slept in nooks and corners and on the streets, with no blankets, their clothing in rags. The women clasp their wan-faced children to their breasts and their own faces wear a look of despair. To these the relief gives bread, and in many places soup-kitchens have been opened where they can get a hot, thick soup, two or three times a week. This is one of the best means of helping them, because they have no fuel or utensils to cook for themselves, but at the best it only prolongs life, it does not adequately nourish them. We cannot begin to supply the food needed for all these wanderers, and the mortality is very high among them.

“Then there are the orphans who have been taken into orphanages where they receive a small ration of food. In most cases it has been possible to adequately clothe these orphans or to provide them with bedding. Often three or four sleep under one quilt, but they are sheltered from the weather, and they are learning some trade or work—carpentering, shoe-making, blacksmithing, care of cows, gardening, making butter and cheese, weaving, sewing, making of garments and many other kinds of work are taught to them.

“The children gathered in these orphanages have generally been picked up in the streets where they were wandering uncared for, and nigh to perishing.

“The largest part of the funds contributed for relief goes to these orphanages. Letters are constantly being received asking for more money in order that the number of orphans may be increased.

“It is a terrible drain upon the sympathies of the brave women who are carrying on this work to see little ones suffer and die without being able to take them in and care for them for lack of funds—and the expense of maintaining these orphanages is reduced to the lowest possible figure.

“In some places the Armenians who were deported are beginning to drift back to their old homes, and there are some signs which seem to indicate that the government may take measures to restore them to their homes. But they will come back in a state of destitution, and they will find their homes in ruins, their lands laid waste, their cattle and implements gone. They will need help to re-establish themselves, and they will need much help, for they have lost everything.

“The need is constantly increasing and will continue to increase for some time, because the process of waste goes on and there is no constructive industry to balance it. Without increased appropriations thousands who have been aided so inadequately must now be left to perish, and to the heroic men and women who are straining all their energies to save life we must assign the task of picking out those who shall perish.

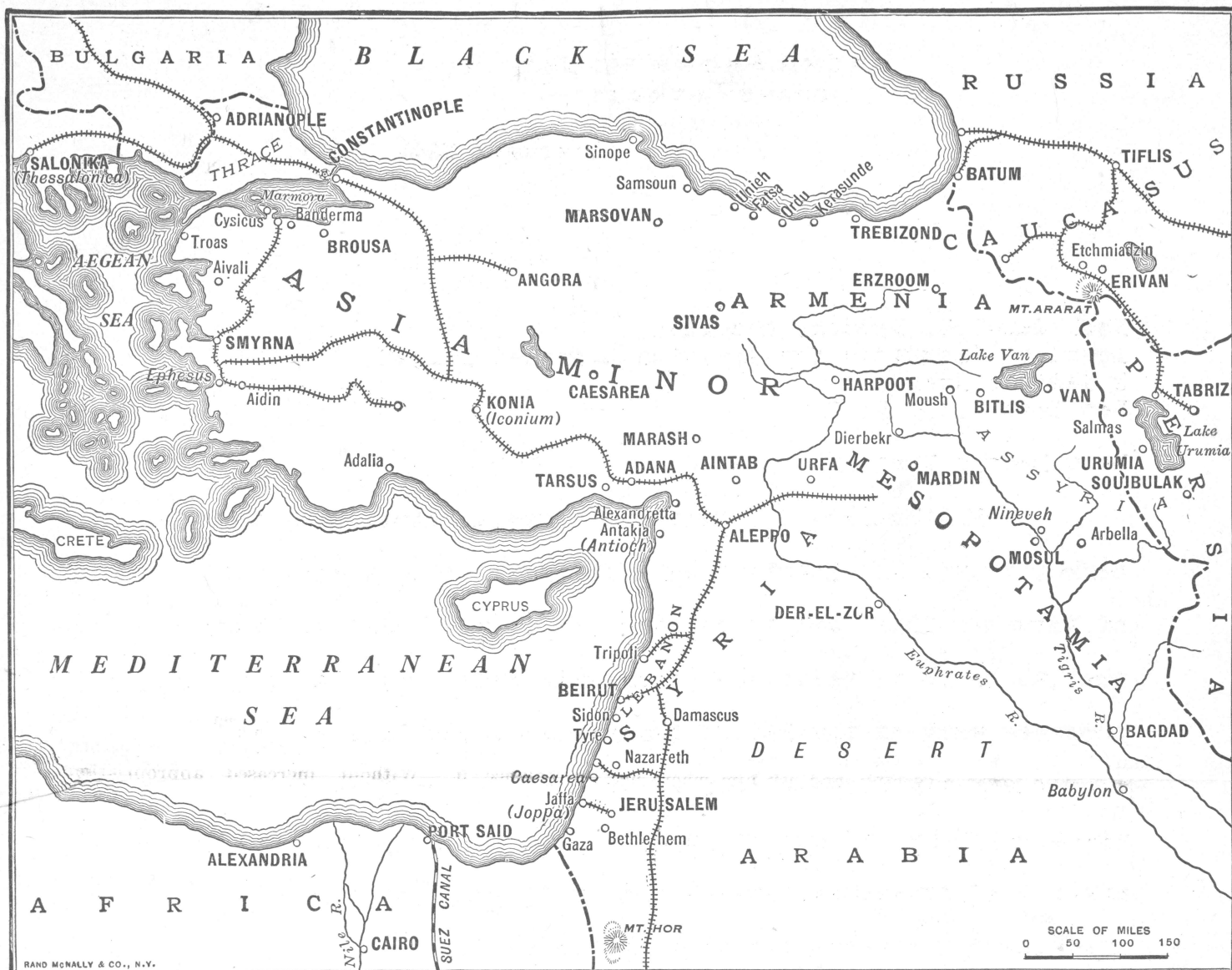
“A diplomat well acquainted with the situation said recently, ‘We are spectators of the death of a race and we are powerless to prevent it.’

“We plead for a large increase in the money with which to feed the starving. America has given so generously to feed the sufferers all over the world, I am sure that she would provide the money if she knew the needs of the people.

Another accompanying report contains the following:

“As to the remaining four months of the year, we are trusting the spirit and purpose of the people in America, who have done so much to save the fragments of the Christian races in the Empire, and who, we feel sure, will not abandon them at the hour of greatest need.

“Though much saddened, they are cutting off whom they must, and continuing with those selected, principally children. We must not let go now. All are making winter plans and asking for funds now to buy what will cost much more later. Can you not cable to me that the promised monthly appropriation is certain till the end of June, 1919. Such action would double the value of the gift.”



Some important distribution points in type like **BEIRUT**, Sites of certain ancient cities in italics. If modern cities exist with different names the Ancient or Bible names are enclosed in parentheses.

Where Millions of Human Beings Are Starving—Western Asia

ROUGHLY, the above map covers the territory in which the events briefly portrayed in this handbook have taken place.

Within this area more than a million men, women and children have lost their lives through massacre, deportation, disease, starvation—all during the last two years.

Atrocities have now ceased, but the remnant of the people, including hundreds of thousands of orphans, is in danger of starving to death.

Many of these are away from their homes which have been destroyed. They have no means of liveli-

hood. Their sole dependence is American charity.

All the aid we will supply can be applied directly in practically any part of the entire section. The Turks themselves are now encouraging the work of distribution.

American missionaries and consuls and representatives of other Christian governments are engaged in this beneficent service. Without remuneration, they are tireless and efficient.

Every dollar contributed here is used for relief there. All expenses are met without draft upon contributions.

ARCHBISHOPS HOUSE
GRANBY STREET
BOSTON

November 18th, 1918.

Rev. James L. Barton, Chairman,
American Committee for Armenian & Syrian Relief,
1 Madison Avenue,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Doctor Barton:-

His Eminence, Cardinal O'Connell, directs me to convey to you his hearty thanks for your communication of November 13th, and to say that he is very glad to learn that there is no religious propaganda connected with the proposed work of the Relief Commission which will go into Turkey for the purpose of inaugurating more extensive measures of relief and of repatriating the more than one million of Armenians, Greeks and Syrians who have lived in exile for the greater part of three years.

His Eminence says he thinks that all Churches should be represented on the Committee, and that he earnestly hopes that Judge Dowling, or someone equally representative, will accept an appointment on the Committee.

His Eminence says that no Christian can be indifferent to the fate of the Armenians, and that he will be very glad to do what he can to be of assistance.

Very sincerely yours,

G. F. Habeshian
Secretary

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201 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MAIN 3300

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Nov. 16, 1918.

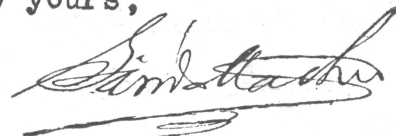
W. B. Millar, Esq.,
Director General, American Committee
for Armenian Relief,
#1 Madison Ave., New York City.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of Nov. 13th, with the
touching appeal prepared by Dr. James L. Barton,
is received today, and his pathetic appeal read
with sincerest interest.

We note that the drive has been re-
planned for January 12th - 19th, and shall be glad
to give it our sympathetic co-operation.

Very truly yours,



War Chests Support Committee's Work

The letter reproduced above is from the chairman of the War Chest for Cuyahoga County which includes the City of Cleveland. Although this War Chest has already made a generous contribution to the work of the Committee, it now stands ready to aid effectively our coming campaign.

A total of \$2,400,000 has now been contributed to the Committee for Relief in the Near East by the War

Chests of the United States. Not a single War Chest has turned down our request for aid.

No better test could be given both of the worthiness of our undertaking and the business methods employed in handling the funds than that \$2,400,000 has been contributed by searchingly careful War Chest Committees in the initial stages of our National Campaign for financial support.

Senate Bill 4785.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following persons, namely, James L. Barton, Samuel T. Dutton, Cleveland H. Dodge, Henry Morgenthau, Edwin M. Bulkley, *Alexander J. Hemphill, Charles R. Crane, William Howard Taft, Charles Evans Hughes, Elihu Root, Harry Pratt Judson, Charles E. Beury, Arthur J. Brown, John B. Calvert, William I. Chamberlain, William T. Ellis, James Cardinal Gibbons, Jerome D. Greene, David H. Greer, Harold A. Hatch, William I. Haven, Myron T. Herrick, Hamilton Holt, Frank W. Jackson, Arthur Curtiss James, Frederick Lynch, Vance C. McCormick, Charles S. Macfarland, Henry B. F. Macfarland, William B. Millar, John R. Mott, Frank Mason North, George A. Plimpton, Philip Rhinelander, William Jay Schieffelin, George T. Scott, Albert Shaw, William Sloane, Edward Lincoln Smith, Robert Eliot Speer, James M. Speers, Oscar S. Straus, Charles V. Vickrey, Harry A. Wheeler, Stanley White, Ray Lyman Wilbur, Talcott Williams, and Stephen S. Wise, their associates and successors duly chosen, are hereby incorporated and declared to be a body corporate of the District of Columbia by the name of the American Committee for Relief in the Near East and by that name shall be known and have perpetual succession, with the powers, limitations, and restrictions herein contained.

SEC. 2. That the object for which said corporation is incorporated shall be to provide relief and to assist in the repatriation, rehabilitation, and re-establishment of suffering and dependent people of the Near East and adjacent areas; to provide for the care of orphans and widows, and to conduct any industrial enterprises or operations of a philanthropic character which may, in the judgment of the corporation, be necessary to promote the social, economic, and industrial welfare of those who have been rendered destitute, or dependent directly or indirectly, by the vicissitudes of war, the cruelties of men, or other causes beyond their control.

SEC. 3. That the direction and management of the affairs of the corporation, and the control of its property and funds, shall be vested in a board of trustees, to be composed of the following individuals: James L. Barton, Samuel T. Dutton, Cleveland H. Dodge, Henry Morgenthau, Edwin M. Bulkley, Alexander J. Hemphill, Charles R. Crane, William Howard Taft, Charles Evans Hughes, Elihu Root, Harry Pratt Judson, Charles E. Beury, Arthur J. Brown, John B. Calvert, William I. Chamberlain, William T. Ellis, James Cardinal Gibbons, Jerome D. Greene, David H. Greer, Harold A. Hatch, William I. Haven, Myron T. Herrick, Hamilton Holt, Frank W. Jackson, Arthur Curtiss James, Frederick Lynch, Vance C. McCormick, Charles S. Macfarland, Henry B. F. Macfarland, William B. Millar, John R. Mott, Frank Mason North, George A. Plimpton, Philip Rhinelander, William Jay Schieffelin, George T. Scott, Albert Shaw, William Sloane, Edward Lincoln Smith, Robert Eliot Speer, James M. Speers, Oscar S. Straus, Charles V. Vickrey, Harry A. Wheeler, Stanley White, Ray Lyman Wilbur, Talcott Williams, and Stephen S. Wise, who shall constitute the first board of trustees and constitute the members of the corporation. Vacancies occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise shall be filled by the remaining trustees in such manner as the by-laws shall prescribe, and the persons so elected thereupon become trustees and also members of the corporation.

SEC. 4. That the principal office of the corporation shall be located in the District of Columbia, but offices may be maintained and meetings of the corporation or of the trustees and committees may be held in other places, such as the by-laws may from time to time fix.

SEC. 5. That the said trustees shall be entitled to take, hold, and administer any securities, funds, or property which may be transferred to them for the purposes and objects hereinbefore enumerated by the existing and unincorporated American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief, and such other funds or property as may at any time be given, devised, or bequeathed to them, or to such corporation, for the purposes of the trust; with full power from time to time to adopt a common seal, to appoint officers, whether members of the board of trustees or otherwise, and such employees as may be deemed necessary for carrying on the business of the corporation, and at such salaries or with such remuneration as they may think proper; and full power to adopt by-laws and such rules or regulations as may be necessary to secure the safe and convenient transaction of the business of the corporation.

SEC. 6. That as soon as may be possible after the passage of this Act a meeting of the trustees hereinbefore named shall be called by Samuel T. Dutton, Cleveland H. Dodge, Henry Morgenthau, Edwin M. Bulkley, Alexander J. Hemphill, William B. Millar, George T. Scott, James L. Barton, and Charles V. Vickrey, or any six of them, at the Borough of Manhattan, in the city of New York, by notice served in person or by mail, addressed to each trustee at his place of residence; and the said trustees named herein, or a majority thereof, being assembled, shall organize and proceed to adopt by-laws, to elect officers, and generally to organize the said corporation.

SEC. 7. That the Congress reserves the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act.

AUDITORS' REPORT

American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief,
One Madison Avenue, New York City.

Gentlemen:

We have completed an examination of the financial records of your Committee and find them correct in every respect. We are glad to certify that your plan of crediting every dollar contributed for relief purposes has been followed. All administrative and office expenses have been met from funds provided privately.

Respectfully submitted,

Hurdman & Cranstoun,
Certified Public Accountants.

SUMMARY AS OF MAY 31, 1918

RELIEF DISTRIBUTION

Syria via Aleppo.....	\$2,310.00	
Syria via Sidon.....	250.00	
Egypt via Cairo.....	30,674.00	
Palestine via Jerusalem.....	420,000.00	
*Asia Minor via Constantinople.....	3,573,179.91	
(reaching 50 inland distribution centers)		
Mesopotamia via Bagdad.....	50,000.00	
Russian Caucasus via Tiflis.....	2,752,953.16	
Persia via Tabriz.....	1,731,570.00	
Persia via Teheran.....	540,000.00	
Syria via Beirut.....	1,315,000.00	
Port Said, Egypt.....	5,000.00	
Armenians in Switzerland via Geneva.....	10,000.00	
Greece via Athens.....	500.00	
Greece via Salonika.....	2,000.00	
Persian Commission	50,000.00	
Individual Relief—Direct	4,767.26	
Total Appropriation		\$10,488,204.33

CONTRIBUTIONS

General Relief	\$10,334,060.22	
Individual Relief	99,739.64	
		\$10,433,799.86

INTEREST

General Relief Funds.....	\$30,330.22	
Individual Relief Funds.....	207.40	
		30,537.62

TOTAL RECEIPTS

Relief Appropriations in excess of receipts, authorized by the Executive Committee "to be forwarded as soon as funds are received"

TOTAL RECEIPTS TO SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1918.....		\$10,488,204.33
TOTAL RELIEF PAYMENTS.....	8,987,892.63	\$12,321,145.92
TOTAL CREDITS ESTABLISHED AND APPROPRIATIONS.....	3,616,235.07	12,604,127.70
		\$282,981.78

* Includes the \$23,866.85 of appropriations in excess of receipts authorized by the executive committee "to be forwarded as soon as funds are received," and forwarded after the date of the Auditor's report.

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